

# the **ALMAGEST**

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## Biology Field Trip to Africa Raises Auditors' Concerns

Jennifer Ebarb  
**ALMAGEST**

A LSU System Internal Audit Department found weaknesses in five areas in regard to the African safari field trip in summer of 1995, administered by Dr. Vaughn Langman, professor of Biological Sciences. The report says that University regulations were not followed and the Louisiana Code of Ethics may have been violated.

Langman stated in the audit that he thinks he did not intentionally do anything wrong.

LSUS students majoring in Biology are encouraged to participate in a biology field trip to get

hands on experience. Through Langman, the African safari trip was offered for three hours of credit to LSUS students. The safari consisted of a four week stay in Kenya, in which Langman's personal vehicles and camping equipment were used.

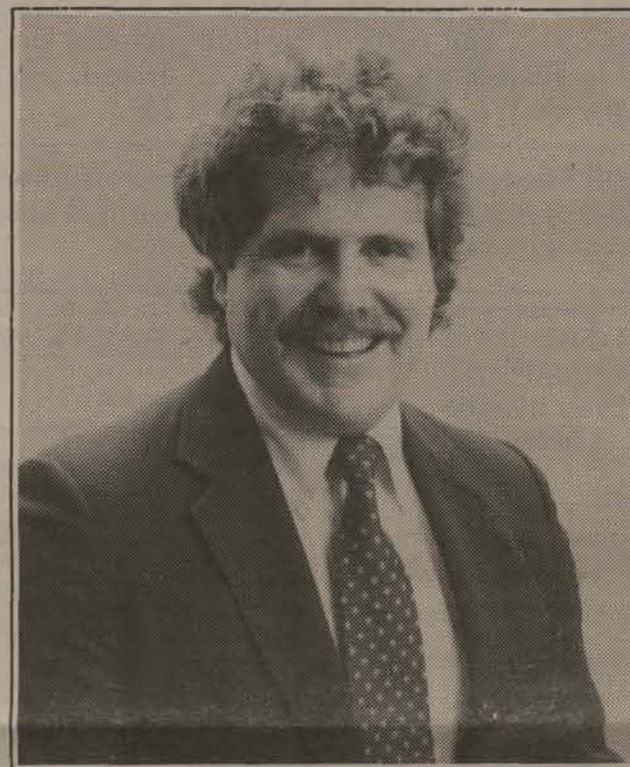
The findings of the report states that a withdrawal of \$7,000 from a university agency account by Langman may have violated the Code of Governmental Ethics. Some of the expenditures were personal in nature, such as a \$2,314 airline ticket for Langman's daughter.

Ten students participated in the trip, but only three were registered with

LSUS and received credit for the course. The other seven participants were from other universities. The students paid the tuition directly to LSUS and Langman received \$4,250 paid directly to him in safari fees. The report says these fees should have been paid directly to the university and deposited into a LSUS agency account.

Langman says he followed the same protocol that he uses to submit receipts for course expenditures. The receipt for his daughter's ticket, Langman says, was part of the receipt turned in for his own ticket. He says he never thought that the university would reimburse

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*Dr. Vaughn Langman may have violated state laws by having students pay him directly for a biology field trip to Africa, instead of paying the university. Langman said that he did not intentionally do anything wrong.*

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## LSUS Receives Award for Advertising

Micheal Schneider  
**ALMAGEST**

LSUS received the Silver Addy Award which was presented by the Shreveport-Bossier Advertising Federation on Feb. 15.

The award was presented in recognition of excellence in the category of Direct Marketing, Business to Consumer Campaign for the 1996 Viewbook and its companion pieces.

"This was the first Addy Award we have received for recruitment material," said Cathey Graham who directed the creation team responsible for the Viewbook. "The



*Cathey Graham*

whole campus came together on this effort and that's why it's so well done."

The competition featured

264 entries in 66 categories according to Mary Slanders, who acted as chairperson for the event. "The entries were judged on content, layout, and creativity as well as many other standards" said Slanders. "LSUS did great and we are eager to see your entry next year."

Along with heading the project, Graham was also responsible for the overall concept of the Viewbook.

"We looked at over 200 different books from Universities across the

nation in an effort to create the best possible product. I think we succeeded," Graham said.

Also involved with the creation of the '96 Viewbook was Scot Smith, who handled photography, and Kathy Hamm, who worked along with Graham as project coordinator.

"What makes us so proud is that this publication was created to keep us competitive with other universities which maybe larger in size," said Graham. "This award proves that not only can we be competitive, but we can also exceed them." □





**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HOMECOMING** on March 1, starting at 4 p.m.. Food, pony rides, face painting, and more. Get your homecoming t-shirt from the Lady Pilot's game: free for first 50 people through the doors.

**LSUS English Club** is headed to Louisiana Tech in Ruston to see *THE COMPLEAT WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)* on Saturday, March 8. The journey begins at 4:30 p.m. from LSUS and costs \$10 which includes the ride to Ruston and the ticket. To attend, pay by March 3. to Dr. DuBose in BH 251.

"All Foods can Fit," a lecture on nutrition, will be presented at 12:45, March 6, in BE 216

**Do You have a Question?**  
Drop it off, or call it in to the Almagest office, and we will search for the answer for you.  
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**'Field Trip' continued from Page 1**

him for both tickets.

Since Langman did not get approval to engage in outside business activity as required by PM 11, Langman may have violated university and state law. The report says that he collected \$30,000 in safari fees. Langman delivered the service, paid the expenses, retained whatever was left, and evidently filed income tax on the project.

The LSUS students who went on the trip were not covered by Student Travel Accident Insurance because Langman did not go through the proper channels to get permission. Also, International travel approval was not obtained from the campus head or a single designee in writing before leaving for Africa. Both the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs were aware of the safari. However, it was

not approved in writing and the Commissioner of Administration was not informed.

Langman says he had no knowledge that the PM11 was required and had discussed the trip on depth with the Vice Chancellor. He says he did not know that travel insurance was required for International travel. Now that he knows what is required, Langman said, he will do so.

The trip was not administered by the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service, which is required by the university policy for credit activities off campus. In 1992, Langman submitted a proposal to the Dean of Continuing Education to administer the field trip to Africa. Due to conflicts between Continuing Education and the College of Sciences on who the money was to be paid

directly to, Langman and the College of Sciences ran the program on their own.

Continuing Education was to receive 20 percent gross income for their administrative charge.

The university agreed with the findings of the audit, and all future programs of this type will be conducted through Continuing Education. Langman can continue the trip to Africa as a private business, and in no way will LSUS be connected to the program through name, staff and equipment.

Langman says that the Africa trip is one that is very difficult to administer, as it has the elements of both a private and public project. He says by virtue of its dual nature, there is no clear cut policy as to how the Africa trip should be administered. □

# College of Liberal Arts Improving its Efficiency

**Eric L. Austing**  
**ALMAGEST**

Faculty and students met at a workshop on last Monday to help define planning processes for future activities in the college of liberal arts.

This was an attempt by the college to reach an agreement between the departments within the college as to what its future objectives should be and the ways to achieve those objectives.

The workshop was conducted by John Kinghorn, a consultant from the Kettering Foundation; a nonprofit organization designed to develop new ways to address problems in politics. Its objective is to establish a framework for the planning process mentioned.

Kinghorn acted as a mediator by encouraging interaction and compro-

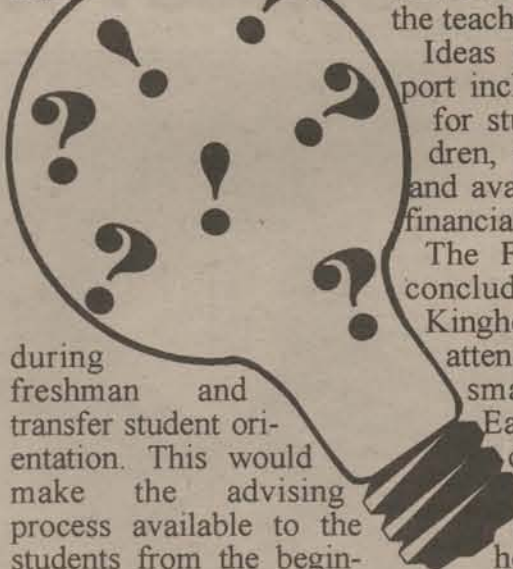
mise between the departments.

The workshop was geared to figure out what could be done to make the first year of a student's academic life as successful as possible and to increase the overall retention rate of the school.

The meeting began with the various departments expressing their concerns and the perceived concerns of the students. Some of these concerns dealt with ineffective advising, lack of administrative and faculty support, and the difference in the perception of education values between the students and teachers.

As the workshop progressed, Kinghorn encouraged free thinking among the faculty in order to reach solutions to these problems. A variety of ideas surfaced regarding each problem.

One of the ideas for more effective advising was increased faculty participation



during freshman and transfer student orientation. This would make the advising process available to the students from the beginning.

A class for teaching advisors the correct way to advise was also brought up. The concern was that students were not getting the proper counseling that they needed.

One faculty member

suggested semesterly evaluations to gauge how a student is doing and to encourage interaction between the students and the teachers.

Ideas for student support included a day care for students with children, peer counselors, and availability of more financial aid.

The Feb. 17 meeting concluded with Kinghorn dividing the attending faculty into smaller groups. Each group discussed the ideas that were the most logical and how to implement them.

Dr. Merrill Knighten, dean of liberal arts, closed the workshop for the day by stating how pleased he was with how things were going. He assured everyone that each suggestion would be taken into consideration.

"So far, I am totally pleased with the way the process has been going," Knighten said. "It already generated things that I would not have thought of."

The meeting for Feb. 18 involved evaluating and prioritizing each idea that was presented during the first meeting. The overall outline of the workshop was printed out by Knighten and will be presented, by him, to upper level students in order to gain insight into what the student body has to say about each problem and the proposed solutions given.

The process will continue through the spring as new ideas are presented.

Students that wish to get involved in the process should speak to teachers in liberal arts. □



# Making LSUS an Academic Home

**Jerry Scott**  
**ALMAGEST**

Representatives from each of the liberal arts disciplines met last Monday and Tuesday in an attempt to keep incoming freshmen and transfer students within the hallowed halls of LSU-Shreveport for the duration of their academic careers.

They also attempted simultaneously to answer the question as to why the retention rate for first year freshmen is so low and continues to decrease. Professors from the English, communications, foreign language, and general studies disciplines assembled in an intimate classroom setting in Bronson Hall under the guidance and organizational expertise of Jon Kinghorn from the Kettering Foundation to not only address the concern of the declining freshmen retention rate, but also to propose possible solutions to remedy the problem.

The faculty was then divided into four groups to address the four major areas of concern to both the student body and the faculty. The focus groups that were constructed dealt with student advising, courses and curriculum, support services for students and the administration policy for the university.

Student advising was a point of great emphasis, because of the pressures that it places on both student and professor. The focus group that dealt with advising came to the general consen-

sus that more time should be spent with the student to examine their social life outside of school so that the advisor can know what that student is capable of and using that information to plan a course of action that is both beneficial to the student in regards to their major area of study and to their general knowledge. The common ground reached by those faculty members in the advising group was that the student was the center of attention in the process, while the professor is the facilitator.

Course structure and curriculum was also addressed. Solid ground was not established because outside of the core curriculum that every student must have, the student needs to have as much of an input on course curriculum as the professor. "You can't achieve academic excellence without the student and each of these four areas of discussion must have student input," said Dr. Merrill Knighten, professor of English. Course curriculum and the inclusion of the student in that process would help to foster the spirit of academic excellence that several of the faculty stated was the desired end result of the forum.

Support services for students was of great debate and concern because many of the faculty feel that because students have other overriding factors at home that warrant their attention that college is not only their first priority but it does not even rank in the top ten. This thought in particular was cited on the summary that was done

after the initial discussion of the faculty as a whole.

Some of the student services that were slated as possibilities were an on-campus day care center that would use the space in the old library, mentorship programs would help students work through any problems that directly affect their academic progress and student and faculty interaction during the common hour to help diffuse the unfriendly atmosphere that some students may feel that the school has.

When each of the focus groups compiles its information, an in depth summary will be constructed by Dr. Knighten, in conjunction with Dr. Dolch of the sociology department, to make them conclusive and draft a formal course of action after some feedback from the student body. An attempt was made to reach Chancellor Marsala for his thought on the coming together of the faculty but he could not be reached for comment.

The best interest of the student and the state of their academic progress is the focus of the information that will be used to make any changes to the curriculum for the different majors, any administrative changes that directly affect student life or educational motivation, any advising strategy that impact both student and professor, and the initiation of any student support services that seek to lighten the load of the student body. □

## LSUS Hosts State Economic Conference

**Mary Jimenez**  
**ALMAGEST**

A continuing trend of growth in oil and gas extraction, service and trade employment, and gaming, has Louisiana's economy looking good, a conference at LSUS was told last week.

Keynote speaker for the Outlook conference, Loren Scott said, "How well a state is going to do; how well a region is going to do, depends upon how its basic industries are doing."

Scott, the director of the division of economic development and forecasting at LSU, summarized the areas of growth in his opening address Feb. 19.

Six other speakers spoke on issues of particular concern to the Shreveport region: medical technology, transportation, manufacturing, gaming, retirement, and entertainment. After a banquet lunch, U. S. Representative Jim McCrery spoke on the legislative forecast.

Technological advances in drilling and extraction, severance tax breaks, the acces-

sibility of the Gulf of Mexico, and steady oil and gas prices make this "A hot industry for the state right now," said Scott. There has been a recovery of 4000 jobs since 1994 and the forecast is for 2300 more jobs in this industry in the coming years.

Scott points out, that as a result of the development in the oil & gas industry, a brand new set of industries are coming into La. These are multimillion dollar iron production plants that will be along the river between New Orleans and Baton Rouge. This will help diversify the economy.

Scott called the textile and apparel employment industry, the state's "Achilles heel." This is not Louisiana-specific but, a national problem. Looking at manufacturing as a whole, and despite the national slump, Louisiana has done well.

The big mover and shaker, Scott points out, is the service and trade employment industry which Shreveport is particularly affected by. This includes medical, accountants, attorneys, restaura-

teurs, entertainment, and the casinos.

The Shreveport gaming industry is looking for further growth by the end of 1997 with the addition of Hilton's Flamingo casino from New Orleans and possibly one more riverboat.

Dr. Neil Granger from the LSU Medical Center sees the Biomedical Research Center as a definite area of economic growth for Shreveport.

LSUMC has increased its competitiveness in grant funding, and looking ahead Granger thinks it is very reasonable to triple that amount. Increased grant money would mean more educational programs through the biomedical Center, recruitment of faculty, staff and students, and spawn entrepreneurial technology.

Kent Rogers, executive director of Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, spoke for transportation. The area has a lot of work already going on: Interstate 49, inner-loop extension to Shreveport-Bossier, Deramus Yard, and the Port of Shreveport-

Bossier. Rogers emphasized the growth opportunities this could bring.

Looking at the future there is a vision for Shreveport to be the intersection of three major interstates. The third possibly being Interstate 69, north to Indianapolis, Minn, and on up to Canada.

Dr. Jere Hatcher, director of advanced manufacturing at LSUS, polled several area manufacturers. He found that in the next three to five years the industry will see 25 percent rise in employment and 50 percent rise in volume.

Also, 70 percent of the manufacturers plan at least moderate expansion and almost all foresee changes in re-organization.

The poll found that the current workforce is unskilled, and this is viewed as a major problem in the coming years.

Max LeComte, President and CEO for the Coordinating and Development Corporation, thinks Shreveport's economy is not diverse enough. He feels marketing to the large

population of retirees would be a lucrative avenue for our economy.

Congressman Jim McCrery spoke of tourism and extensive transportation projects: Interstate 49, continuation of Interstate 220, a four-lane Highway 171, a possible four-lane Highway 6, and the possibility of Interstate 69.

McCrery foresees no immediate federal changes in education, at least not in the next four years. He feels that education is a local function, and that it cannot be improved by Washington.

The conference was sponsored by LSUS, The Times, the Shreveport Urban Services Consortium and the Coordinating and Development Corporation.

This is an annual event to help steer the economic leaders and the area workforce in the same direction.

The Shreveport Urban Services Consortium sponsors several projects in Caddo Parish to educate employers, employees, small businesses and students. □



# the **ALMAGEST**

*to keep the campus informed*

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## Letter to the Editor

Man has set aside several days of the year for us to express how we feel for each other: birthdays, Valentine's Day, Mother and Father's day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. It's during these days we openly share "with", express feelings "for" and give "to" one another. How do we show those we love how we feel during the "off season"?

How many days of the year does God show His love to us? How many of us take advantage of what life had to offer? How many of us find the positive in every negative life throws our way? How many of us realize that each day of life is a gift from God - a gift He didn't have to give any of us? How many of us realize no problem is too big for God to solve? How many of us can adopt the "don't worry, be happy" philosophy because we know WHO our FATHER is?

On November 7, 1996, I was involved in a car accident. This not only had an effect on me physically, but also mentally and spiritually. Five people were involved and one didn't survive. When I saw the condition of my vehicle and took one moment to actually think about "how" the accident happened, "when" it happened and "where" it happened ... I knew the accident could have been fatal for me, but God decided it was not yet my time.

We all know death is inevitable. It is the process through which we all must go, but the death of a love one or even an acquaintance carries more weight than that of a stranger. Then again, we should keep in mind, a stranger to us is a love one to someone else. So far this year, I've been confronted by death on many levels and each one makes me realize just how blessed I am. Each encounter makes me realize tomorrow is not promised, therefore we should live each day as if it were our last. Each encounter makes me realize life is a good and perfect gift from God and should be lived according to His word.

I urge you to stop taking life for granted. Stop taking your loved ones for granted. Stop thinking you can tell that person how you feel later. Stop being upset with people over long period of time - holding grudges for something neither of you can remember. Stop expressing your feelings only during the "holidays", for you never know which day will be your last.

I charge you to start living today. Live according to God's word. Form a closer relationship with God, making sure you know who HE is and HE knows who you are. Bridge the gaps that form barriers between you and a love one. Amend the friendship that took a wrong turn. Say those "three words" more often "I LOVE YOU". Don't let the sun go down on your anger, for no one knows what tomorrow may bring. Only God knows. Think about it.

**Lalita Wilson**  
Admissions Counselor

## Fluff Bands Don't Cut It

Jason Adams  
COLUMNIST

If you have grown tired of the fluff that is being touted as "today's rock music," it may be time for a change.

First off, let's define fluff. Rock Bands like No Doubt, Collective Soul, AC/DC, Silverchair, The Goo Goo Dolls, Live, Pearl Jam, Korn, Green Day, Soundgarden (it would make me proud to have misspelled any of the previous names) and numerous others, fall into this category. These bands have virtually no sense of musical time. The musicians in these bands don't interact or "play together" as musicians are supposed to do — they just happen to be playing at the same time, in the same city, at the same studio or on the same stage.

To bathe your ears with rock music that breaks from the standard 4/4 time signature and evidences musical progressions that tell a story, one only needs a rock library of two bands: Rush and The Police.

Rush, a Canadian rock trio with 22 studio albums under their belt, is a good place to start. When the band was conceived 23 years ago, all three members invested time and effort into an important commodity — hard work. Yes, all three members can read sheet music, unlike many of the musicians of today's fluff bands who learned how to play the bass and guitar through tablature listings in Guitar magazine. No, none of the members of Rush "play by ear." That's my favorite line, "I've never had any lessons — I play by ear." You'll hear this a lot from fluff band members.

Rush are all formally educated in music, which allows them to "hear" a piece and make it reality. Fluff bands go through this same creative process, but they apply no musical parameters to their noise. They usually have two parts to their clamor: a beginning and an end.

I saw Rush in concert last December at the University of New Orleans' Lakefront Arena. Watching Geddy Lee, the group's vocalist/bassist, sing, play the bass with his left hand and play keyboard sequences with his right hand, all at the same time, literally blew me away. Neil Peart's 30-minute drum solo covered musical genres from jazz to latin and reggae (for all the drummers out there — Mr. Peart used both traditional and matched grip while exciting the crowd and yes, he led with both his right and left hand on the hi-hat). Alex Lifeson's classical guitar work (yes he utilized all five fingers and no pick) on *The Trees* was proof of the hours he had labored over his tool. They are all talented, well taught musicians.

If you are willing to expand your musical horizon, go right now and buy Rush's *Permanent Waves* (1982). With only six tracks, it is the perfect little musical snack. Start off with the last song on the disc, *Natural Science*.

*The high-minded man does not bear grudges, for it is not the mark of a great soul to remember injuries, but to forget them.* — Aristotle

Views expressed in columns and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Almagest* as a whole.

It's a three-parter spanning about 10 minutes. After this experience, you should be hooked but definitely give the other five tracks a whirl.

And what about The Police. Well, The Police are The Police. Okay, I'll admit, while Rush had their own sound, they still had traces Yes, King Crimson, and Led Zeppelin that would pop up in their music from time to time. The Police are an entirely different story.

The Police weren't rock, they weren't reggae, and they weren't jazz. They were all three — kind of. To date, no one has come close to duplicating their eclectic sound. An Australian band called Men at Work tried to in the early 80s but they soon fell off the face of the earth — from the bottom.

To set the record straight, The Police did create that timeless song, "Every Breath You Take," about a jealous lover who obsessively watches over his girlfriend. The song had a love-ballad feel that middle America could digest. Unfortunately, middle America couldn't stomach most of their musically challenging material. Songs like *So Lonely*, *Shadows in the Rain*, *Masoko Tango*, and *Regatta de Blanc* was where their true talent split at the seams.

It's hard to say why The Police had such a unique sound. Drummer Stewart Copeland, his father was a CIA agent, spent his formative years abroad. Growing up in the middle east and away from the rest of the world during Beetle Mania, Copeland wasn't breast fed rock-n-roll. Vocalist/bassist Gordon Sumner, alias Sting, was at one time an English teacher in London, hence the song "Don't Stand So Close to Me," about a male teacher and a female student that have an affair. Guitarist Andy Summers was a highly creative soul that did far too much heroine. His staccato-like rhythm and knowledge of electronic equipment and its application to the guitar is a trip — BIG TIME. I guess all this mess thrown together equals The Police.

To get the ball rolling, buy all five of The Police's CDs. While all of their material is musically challenging, try to stay away from the tunes that the radio has ruined: *Message In a Bottle*, *Wrapped Around Your Finger*, *King of Pain*, and *Walking on the Moon*. All other tracks, I mean all, are fair game.

By the way, I do play a musical instrument, which one is not important, and speak from experience about the aforementioned bands. If you kept wondering what I meant by "musically challenging", go try to learn, note for note, a Rush or Police song. In a word, it's HARD.

How many times have you heard one of those college bands cover anything by Rush or The Police. They don't because they can't. But why should they when Hootie and the Blowfish and Green Day are so thought provoking?

### Letters Policy

The *Almagest* requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study.

Letters should be submitted to The *Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The *Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters.



# 'Slackers' Need a Push to Get Motivated

Rita Uotila  
COLUMNIST

It's great to see that college of liberal arts is getting organized on the freshman issue: how to make them more involved and motivated from the day one.

To communicate the message that faculty, staff, and students at LSUS care about the newcomers is important.

As of today, on top of the pet peeve list is a freshman with *no-preference* as a major. This is the group which needs the most attention, this is the group we have to get rid off, no, not physically, but by helping them focus on their future and finding a major. It would be beneficial for the whole university if the size of this group was minimized, and "I prefer not to" have a major -attitude would not do for an answer after the first semester.

It seems absurd that students who probably have a strong preference about most things in their life, what to eat, drink, and wear, wouldn't have any choice when it comes to their major.

So why are the *no-preference* majors a problem? First of all, since they don't have any specific goal in mind, they are more likely to be unmotivated and students' duties are just tasks that must be accomplished with a minimum possible effort. Their indifferent attitudes become a problem not only for them, but also for people around them.

For example, some of these twits come late to class and slouch to their seats with so much difficulty that you would think their leg was in a cast — as a result everyone is distracted.

After getting comfortable by sticking their feet between the wooden bars on the chair in front of them, and leaving foot prints all over the person's jacket hanging from the back rest, they pull out their breakfast so they can really tune out, make some use of their time and nourish their physical being, since they are stuck in class. As the last of the blood rushes

from their brain to stomach to attack the fatty acids, they are about to miss the announcement from the professor. "Make sure you know the part...CRUNCH, CRUNCH, CRUNCH...for the midterm, I promise you, it will be on the test." So you missed it too, because by this time the little weasels have finished their breakfast and are reaching to the bottom of their bags to group every last crumb between their fingers then sucking and licking off the excess grease — finger by finger, ruffling the pouch into a small ball, and tossing it at your feet. "Thank's a bunch!" As a result, you are unhappy, annoyed, and hungry.

On another day, the group earlier identified has been able to find food before class and actually have their notebooks open and a writing utensils in their hand. However, the most important component — the mind — is not present.

The professor lectures along, comes to a conclusion, and pauses. The student's mind wonders and the eyes glaze at the notes in disbelief. The time has come to query, clueless of the fact that the answer just given was for that particular question, but the silent rolling of the eyes and tapping of the pens goes unnoticed.

Let's just make clear for the thin-skinned students out there that exceptions apply to these scenarios — like all things in life — and that not all freshmen are guilty of these accusations (if that's the way you decide to take them.) Indeed some upper classmen can be accused of the same offenses. However, I'm not pointing these things out only because I'm ten-years-past-my-teens-bitchy-senior, but because deep down inside, I care.

The orientation program at LSUS is good for getting the freshmen settled in school and provides important information to the newcomers, but it might be too much, too mind boggling, to try to motivate the freshmen to check the faculty, student organizations,

and all the different opportunities this campus has to offer all at the same time. My suggestion is first to get the herd in and start the molding later.

During the early weeks of the semester the university could get together and present its possibilities and opportunities to the new crowd. The set up could be along the same lines as in registration, but on this day contrary to registration, freshmen could concentrate on communicating with the faculty, and upperclassmen.

The ongoing struggle to get students interested in extra curriculum activities could also be improved. The Open Day (just a name suggestion) would be a great opportunity for the student organizations to present their activities for freshmen and get them involved early in their college careers. Too often students think their lives careers start after they graduate, but those students who are involved in student organizations know that's not the case.

The Open Day would also help the *no-preference* students focus and think about their studies. They

could also have the possibility of signing up for a major right on the spot.

Further, to make mean looking old timers more approachable, it might be a good thing to wear name tags to distinguish between faculty, and students' classifications: green for freshmen, blue for professors, and, you guessed it, purple for seniors.

In addition, if the Open Day would be held during the semester rather than before, freshmen would have already been to their classes and might feel more comfortable talking to the faculty about their interests and concerns. Furthermore, most of us continuing students are usually busy working until the semester starts and have no time to

come to school during the registration week. I, for one, try to



land at the Shreveport Municipal Airport about an hour before my first lecture.

I wouldn't call the attention only to freshmen, though, the whole university could spend some more time together.

Even though this is a small campus, people get busy in their own colleges, departments, and offices, so a little bit of mingling wouldn't hurt. To generate and project an unified, yet open, atmosphere from among us could help to attract more students to LSUS: get them to come and to stay.

LSUS should be concerned about the new comers. Without a major they neither have focus or motivation in their studies. The aimless drifting interferes with the work of others, and that shouldn't be the case.

Yes, to some of us, a degree from LSUS is an investment, and therefore, rights of those students should be protected from the ones who use this place just to pass time, shoot the breeze — as an extended day care, if you will.

So, next time you get ready to set up your picnic in class, no matter what your classification is, think for a moment the students around you and show some consideration. Now is the time to feed the brain, not the body. □

## Educator Joe Clark Encourages Audience to 'Lean On' Each Other

Kirk Dickey  
ALMAGEST

Former educator Joe Clark encouraged the audience to work together in his speech last Thursday in the U. C. Theater.

Clark, who was the subject of the movie *LEAN ON ME*, spoke to an audience of about 125 people about his life experiences, his views on education, Ebonics, and how to achieve personal goals in life.

Clark walked back and forth across the stage with confidence as he spoke. The former Army drill instructor spoke, joked, and yelled at times, to get his point across. He even

brought a bat like the one he supposedly carried at his school to get students' attention.

Throughout his speech, Clark reminded people that it does not matter who you are. It is what you do that matters. "The essence of what I am saying is," Clark said, "let's judge people by the content of their character and not some superficial notion of skin color, or texture of hair . . . or some other fatuous insignificant concepts."

He called for people to cooperate for the good of the future. "It's time for us, as Americans, to come together," Clark said.

He explained his hate for hypocrisy. The worst of

which, he said, is caused by fear. That fear, the fear of being ostracized because of different views, is the main problem with communication and reaching goals, according to Clark.

"I don't fear anybody," Clark said. "I walk down the street, and dogs stop barking."

Clark said that the bat was just a device to get attention for his school during a rough period in its history. That earned Clark the nickname "Batman."

Clark made national headlines, the cover of *TIME* magazines, and was the subject of the movie after a controversial year of reforms at Eastside High, where he was principal. □



# MEET YOUR TEACHER

**Mary Jimenez**  
**ALMAGEST**

**Richard (Rick) Mabry** - came to LSU-S — 1989

Associate Professor of Mathematics

Ph.D., University of South Florida

**Maxim:** A child educated only at school is an uneducated child. — George Santayana

**Favorite Food(s):** A very sweet tangerine and old grapes (half-way to raisins).

"Old grapes are very under-rated."

**Hot topics:** Education — in America, at LSU-S, at public schools.

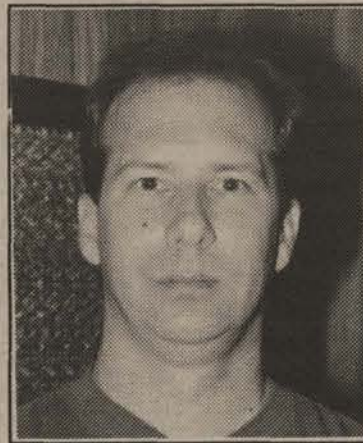
**Music:** The Dregs, Little Feat, Jeff Beck, Buddy Rich, Dwight Yokem.

He wears jeans and talks up-beat with a casual tone. His office has two book shelves covered with old and new math texts, numbered notebooks in series, and journals. On the floor, on the desk, and on the extra chairs are books and journals that didn't fit on the shelves. On the window sill there are geometric shapes in the form of puzzles and art, and a miniature abacus. Spread between the shapes, held by magnets on the filing cabinets and on top of the bookshelves are pictures of his 9-year-old daughter.

On the computer screen in his office is a beautiful rhythmic design somehow powered by the string of letters and numbers (variables and constants) above it. The design is a repeating geometric pattern (tessellations) programmed such that continuous pieces have the same colors throughout the design.

This is Mabry's current undertaking, which is a collaboration with two other mathematicians from the United States. The design (s) are fashioned after the work of M.C. Escher, the Dutch graphic artist most recognized for spatial

illusions, incredible techniques in woodcutting and lithography, and his tessellations. Escher must have gone to extreme lengths to create each tessellation. Mabry wrote a computer program which allows the user to test the beauty of a "Escher tiling" without it being so labor intensive. Mabry's program uses rotation, and reflection to create the Escher tiles, but the uniqueness is its ability to have the colors connecting throughout the same pattern.



*Rick Mabry*

Mabry's background is in programming. During graduate school, and for three years after earning his Ph.D. he worked in the industry. He said, "That is essentially the talent that paid my way through graduate school," and recommends to all math majors to develop a lot of computing skills. "That's where the money is." His thirst for knowledge and education (and the closing of the site he was working at) eventually brought him to LSU-S.

His other passions include music. Mabry plays the drums. During graduate school he played in a rock-n-roll band. As a programming engineer he played in a blues band, and until last year he played in a country band, Gatordilla. (The lead singer left for Nashville.) You may have heard him; last year they opened for Kenny Wayne Shepard at a Mardi Gras festival. Anyone looking for a drummer?

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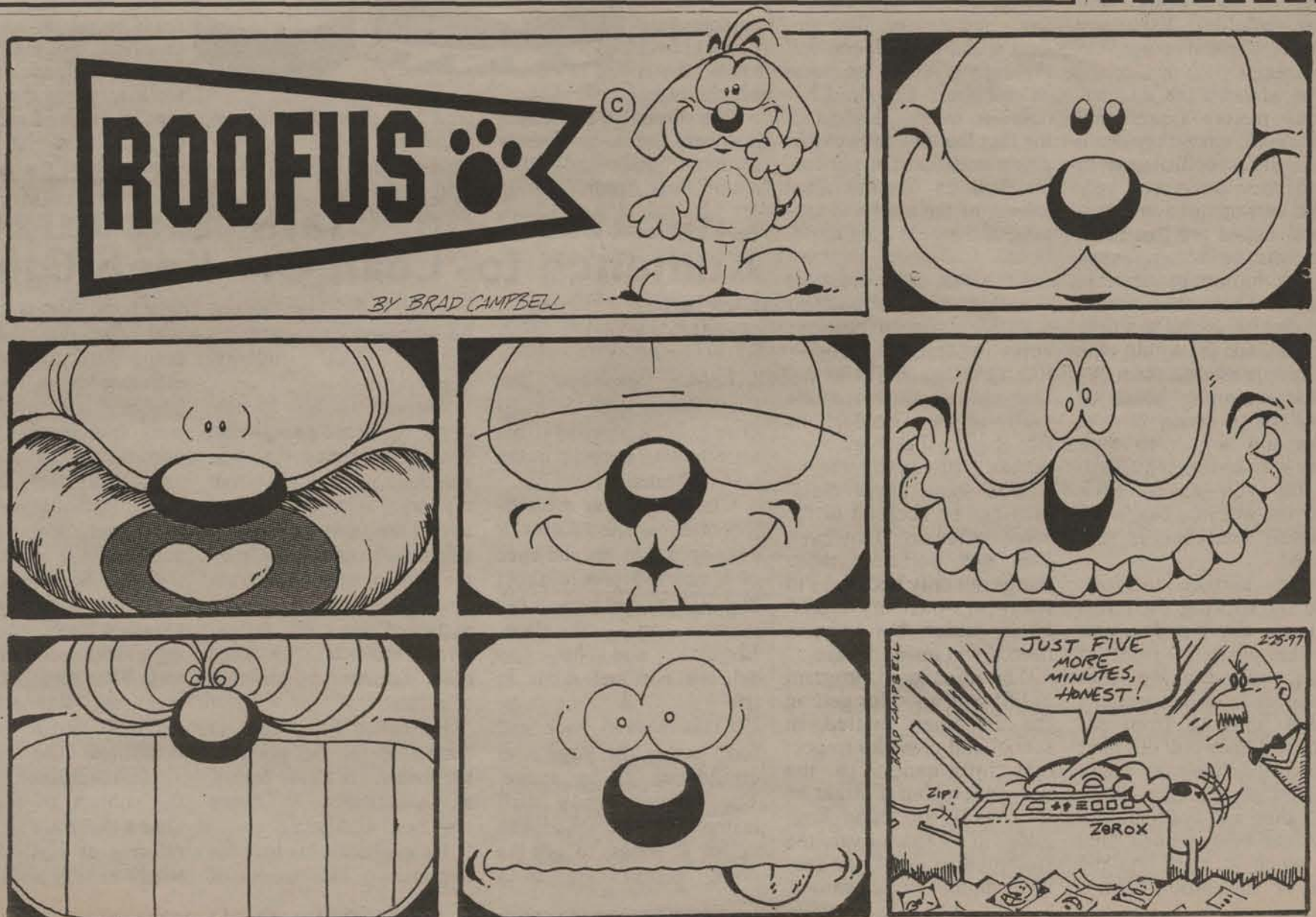
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✂ *Mel Davis, owner*





# SPORTS

## LSUS Pilots Baseball Schedule 1997

**March 2 Pilots vs Lyon College @ 12 p.m.**

**March 12 Pilots vs Dallas Baptist University @ 12 p.m.**

**March 13 Pilots vs Dallas Baptist University @ 12 p.m.**

**March 17 Pilots vs Mid-American Nazarene College @ 12 p.m.**

**March 20 Pilots vs Southwest Adventist College @ 2:30 p.m.**

**March 21 Pilots vs Southwest Adventist College @ 2:30 p.m.**

**March 25 Pilots vs East Texas Baptist Univ. @ 1 p.m.**

## Open Season on Intramural Softball

**Brian Allen  
ALMAGEST**

Spring is in the air (at least for those three or four warm days out of the week) and with it comes that annual rite of passage, intramural softball. The department needs athletes and officials, and you need not be an expert at either to come out and give it a try.

The first official clinic was Feb. 25, and second is held Feb. 27. This is your chance to learn all the rules of the game sideways, forwards, backwards, and every other which way. You should be ready to wield the near godlike power of the umpire. Try not to let the power go to your head. For those looking to get a

part of the on the field action, there is the free agent draft on Feb. 26 at 4 p.m. This is the time to hook up with a team if you don't already have one. Team captains are ever on the lookout for that extra bit of help to give them the advantage.

Team rosters need to be in by Feb. 27 at 4 p.m., so the business of scheduling games and such things can get underway and everything can get off to a smooth start. The preseason will be the week of March 3- 6 so officials and players alike can get into game shape by the time the season's underway. The regular season will be from March 10 - April 3 with a postseason tournament to determine the league's best on April

7 - 10.

Each team must pay a deposit of \$30 for each team sport. The team is charged \$10 for its first forfeit, and the entire sum the second time. If the team doesn't forfeit any games, the deposit will be refunded. Each team member must present two forms of ID: an LSUS ID and a valid driver's license. (Might we suggest a real one, those phony ones will get you in trouble).

If softball isn't your dream sport, don't despair. Intramural sports offers a plethora (yes, folks, he said plethora) of other activities such as sand volleyball, wallyball (a volleyball like game played on a racquetball court), and aerobics. □

## Intramural Basketball Starts to Roll

**Brian Allen  
SPORTS COLUMNIST**

With week three of intramural basketball now belonging to the ages, parity appears to be the order of the day. No one appears invulnerable as yet, nor does anyone appear to be headed for the scrap heap.

TKE Sober and 3/4 Time are still the class of the league so far, with the Glen Colvin led Hack Pack hot on their tails. The pack has suffered three defeats this season, but only one has been to an LSUS opponent.

While the med. center teams are giving our guys all they can handle, losses to them don't affect standings for our postseason tournament. Still, bragging rights are nice and the future doctors are teaching courses in court side manners at every possible opportunity.

On Feb. 17, The Pimps

blasted Phi Delta Theta 61 - 38 in a game the Phi Deltas are still feeling the ill effects of. Phi Delta Theta is 0 - 3 in the young season and that swack-hammering was the last thing their confidence needed. But two of their losses are against med. center teams, so it is hardly time for them to reach for the panic button.

The games that will interest LSUS fans are the two nailbiters the aforementioned Hack Pack treated fans to on Feb. 19. They were edged by the PA's 67 - 65 in the 6:30 game, and had to play a fresh Kappa Sigma team at 7:30. Kappa Sig came in still looking for its first win, and almost got it at the Pack's expense. But showing the resilience that champions have to have, the Pack emerged with a 54 - 53 win.

Are they this season's Cinderella team? The

Almagest sports staffers say no for one reason: Nobody knew Cinderella was coming. With two wins already in the books and two of the league's leading scorers in Marcus Hughes and Adam Rimmer, the Pack would need stealth technology to sneak up on anyone now.

In other scoring news, the Daryl Adams show is apparently nowhere near over. The 3/4 Time go-to guy leads everybody with an impressive 32 points per game average. His team sits squarely atop the standings and until he decides to leave orbit and return to Cape Canaveral, there may not be much more to stop them. Here are the standings, the top ten scorers and the true identity of the second gunman on the grassy knoll. (Not really, just wanted to see if anyone was paying attention.) □

Top Ten Scorers as of Feb 20 1997

	Name	Team	Points	Points per Game
1	Daryl Adams	¾ Time	96	32.00
2	Dennis Watters	TKE - Drunk	26	26.00
3	Terry Gray	TKE - Sober	72	24.00
4	Ricky Boyett	TKE - Drunk	20	20.00
5	Marcus Hughes	The Hack Pack	139	19.86
6	Adam Rimmer	The Hack Pack	130	18.57
7	Herb Jones	TKE - Sober	55	18.33
8	Navin Subramanian	ΦΔΘ	48	16.00
9	Nick Beggs	KΣ	29	14.50
10	Everett Zehr	TKE - Sober	38	12.67

Intramural Basketball Standings

1. TKE Sober	2 wins	0 losses
2. ¾ Time	2 wins	1 loss
3. The Hack Pack	2 wins	1 loss
4. Kappa Sigma	0 wins	1 loss
5. Phi Delta Theta	0 wins	1 loss



# CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

## Japanese Cultural Society

Meets: 2nd and 4th Tues. of each month  
Activities: demonstrations, discussions  
Contact: Emi Wamsley, 861-7482, BH238, BH240.

## Accounting Club

Meets: 3rd Wed. of each month, noon, BE216.  
Activities: Speakers, Networking, Scholarships, Volunteer Tax Assistance, Campus Activities  
Contact: Accounting dept., college of business.

## Louisiana Association of Educators

Meets: 3rd Thurs. of each month  
Activities: Student teacher tea, speakers, bookfair, workshops, and service projects.  
Contact: Denise Wilson, 742-6423

## Math Club

Meets: 2nd and 4th Tues. Of each month, 10:30 a.m., BH 421  
Activities: Group activities, Science Olympiad, Viro-Wars Tournament  
Contact: Dr. Mabry or Dr. Covington.

## History Club

Meets: First Thursday of each month, at 10:30 a.m. in BH 446.  
Contact Dr. Finley or Michael Scales, 221-7441.

## Chemistry Club

Meets: 1st Thurs. of each month  
Activities: group  
Contact: Dr. Gustavson, 797-5091.

## MBA Association

Meets: Once a month  
Activities: seminars with guest speakers on career planning and resume writing, social activities  
Contact: Director of Graduate Studies, College of Business.

## Rotorac

Meets: Two meetings per month  
Activities: Students service organization, one service project per semester, luncheons.  
Contact: Dr. Paul Merkle, 797-5240

## Drama Club

Meets: Tues., Thurs., 10:30 a.m., BH330  
Activities: Dramatic production, first hand information on auditions in local productions, volunteer work  
Contact: Jorgi Jarzabek, 797-5228

## Sociology/Social Work Club

Meets: BH361  
Contact: Ms. Kenna Franklin or David O'Neal, 424-7332

## Biology Club

Meets: twice a month, SC 228.  
Activities: Social events, career seminars, fundraisers, community and campus service projects.  
Contact: Dr. Beverly Burden, 797-5088, bburden@pilot.lsus.edu.

## Campus Ministry

Meets: 1st and 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., UC Pilots Room.  
Activities: devotionals, programs, service projects.  
Contact: Toni Bishop, 798-8837  
Betsy Eaves, 869-5024.

## Catholic Student Union

Meets: Twice a month  
Activities: Community service, social events, fundraisers.  
Contact: Joseph Holubek 868-6104.

## Student Government Association

Meets: Every Tues. 1 p.m., DeSoto. Open to everyone.  
Contact: Michael Scales, 221-7441.

## Psychology Club

Meets: 1st and 3rd Thurs. Monthly, 10:30, BE342  
Activities: Community service, social events, speakers, fundraisers.  
Contact: Brenda Alexander, 933-5734.

## Public Relations Student Society of America

Meets: Monthly, Thurs., 10:30a.m.  
Activities: Volunteer work, contact with PRSA, seminars, speakers, workshops.  
Contact: Kathy Smith, 798-0049.

## SPJ-LSUS Society of Professional Journalists

Meets: TBA  
Activities: guest speakers on topics of the field related to journalism, socials  
Contact: Rita Uotila, 687-3608.

## Health and Physical Ed. Club

Meets: Tues, Thurs. 10:30 a.m.  
Activities: Almost Anything Goes for LSUS, judge field days for elementary schools.  
Contact: Macie Foster, 797-7294.

## ACJS/Lambda Alpha Epsilon

Meets: 1st and 3rd Tue of each mo.  
Activities: Various community activities, speakers on law enforcement ops.  
Contact: Dr. Bernadette Palombo 797-5343, or Richard Georgia 797-5078.

## English Club

Meets: 3rd Thurs. of each month.  
Activities: Booksale, guest speakers, social activities.  
Contact: Dr. Thomas Dubose, BH 251, or Patty Lenox, 869-3251.

## International Club

Meets: 3rd Thurs. of each month, 10:30 a.m., in BH242 (Foreign Language Multimedia Lab)  
Activities: Guest speakers, films, travel and foreign exchange information, International Food Festival, community service.  
Contact: Lynn Walford, 797-5256, lwalford@pilot.lsus.edu

## ISGA!

**Student Government Association  
Elections are coming up!  
March 17-21**

**Interested in Running?**

**Pick up your *Intent to Run*  
forms in Student Activities  
UC 232**

**President, vice president, and  
college senators will be elected.**

***Intent to Run forms* are due by Feb.  
27 at 4:30 p.m. in UC 232**

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

**Feb. 28 — George Wallace Show  
CANCELLED, get refunds for your tick-  
ets at LSUS Bookstore.**

**Feb. 28 — Baseball - Pilots vs. Univ. of  
Mobile @ 12 p.m.**

**March 1 — Homecoming: Fair between  
the U.C. and the HPE Building,  
Pilot's basketball beginning @ 7 p.m.**

**March 6 — Wellness Month activities in  
the U.C.**

**March 6 — "All Foods Can Fit," will  
be presented at 12:45, in BE 216**

**March 7 — SOC meeting @ noon in  
the Webster Room, U.C.**